

The Empire Writes Back

Volume 17, Issue 1, Spring 2017

Congratulations Students of the Month!

Nam Doran, Eric Ballinger, Julissa Alfaro, Patricia Poole, Jennifer Louviere-Medeiros, Kenneth Leacock and Andrea Hernandez Dominguez



SEPTEMBER—As president of the Institute of Management Accountants Student Chapter, Nam has organized and participated in many community outreach programs such as VITA and Bite of Reality.



OCTOBER—A leader in the classroom, I.T. student Eric has passed the first part of his A+ certification and recently became a father. He also demonstrates fantastic customer service skills.



NOVEMBER—Julissa is master certified in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, and Outlook, which evidences the knowledge and skills she has acquired in her business program.



DECEMBER—Patti is a mother and maintains a job as well as attending college full-time in the evening. When faced with a difficult clinical check-off test, she focuses and achieves her goals.

JANUARY— Jennifer makes thoughtful contributions to classroom discussions and looks for solutions. She also contributes to the student chapter of IMA as newsletter editor.

FEBRUARY— After completing his B.A., Kenneth returned to school in order to challenge himself and train for a new career. Always willing to assist fellow students, he is determined to be successful in his chosen field of medical billing and coding.



MARCH— Andrea's work quality is of the highest standard, and she is looking forward to her future as a paralegal. To prepare for that, she volunteers in the Small Claims Clinic, where she assists over 10 clients a week in navigating the small claims legal process. ▲



WE GOT THE JOB!

Accounting

Alice Koonkongsatian

Commissions Accountant I

Intelisys

Business

Julissa Alfaro

HR Store Support

Oliver's Market

Adrienne Antone

Appraiser Trainee

Solid Foundation Appraisals

John Garcia-Rupert

Office Assistant

Doughty Enterprises

Diana Lizalde

Receptionist

Kenwood Fence Co., Inc.

Olivia Olmsted

Receptionist

Hansel Subaru

Amelia Rodriguez

Administrative Operations Assistant

Town of Windsor

Lynn Steele

Salon Coordinator

Fredrick James Salon

Chelsea Thompson

Accounting Assistant

Redwood Empire Vineyard Management



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The School of Law In Brief

2016 Pro Bono Award Recipients

On November 18, 2016 the Sonoma County Bar Association hosted their annual “Pro Bono Awards” luncheon honoring over 1,000 lawyers, law students, paralegals, and legal secretaries who volunteered their time in service to the legal community and the Courts. Empire honored 57 volunteers and awarded two special awards.

- Susannah Edwards was recognized for her dedication, leadership, and compassion while a student and volunteer in the Elder Law Clinic.
- Kharman Aidun was specially acknowledged for her outstanding contributions and dedication as a student and volunteer to the Disability Law Clinic.



Additionally, alumna Amy Woodruff was honored a second time by Legal Aid of Sonoma County, a first-repeat honoree per Executive Director, Ronit Rubinoff.

Class of 2017 Commencement

Professor Rob Jackson (photo, left) will deliver the commencement address at Empire College School of Law’s graduation ceremony on Sunday, June 4, 2017, at the Mary Agatha Furth Center in Windsor. Juris Doctor and Master of Legal Studies degrees will be conferred.

Professor Joseph Stogner will address the graduating class on behalf of the School of Law’s faculty, and Professor Heather Bussing will perform the hooding ceremony.

Congratulations to the following graduates who will be celebrating the attainment of their Juris Doctor degrees:

Alexandra Apodaca	Scott Cohen	Matt Huffman	Daniel McCoy	Caitlin van Loben Sels
Kenneth Banaszek	Timothy Craig	Mark Johnson	James McCrumb	Samantha Vance
Trayce Beards	Matt Defer	Olga Komar	Kim Murphy	Martin Wade
Michael Caballero	Sarah Hazelton	Gerard McCarthy	Chandra Valianti	

Informational Law Seminar

A free informational seminar will be held Tuesday, April 25, at 6:30pm featuring two Empire Law alumni guest speakers: Melissa Coughlin, Sonoma County Deputy Public Defender (Class of 2008), and Brian Barboza, bankruptcy attorney (Class of 2007). They will share information about their law school experiences, current careers, and answer questions for prospective law students and anyone interested in learning more about law school. Guests are welcome.

To reserve a space or if you have questions contact: LawAdmissions@empirecollege.com.



California Bar Exam

On behalf of Dean Mullins, the faculty, and staff of Empire College School of Law, we extend our CONGRATULATIONS to 2016 CA Bar Examination passers: Patrick Carney, Andrew Conway, Alicia Durand, Angela Allen Emerick, Joel Fleck, James Ghilotti, Kelsey Walsh, and Jesse Wurtzel. Their accomplishments required years of dedication and hard work in law school and hundreds of hours of preparation. Local swearing-in ceremonies welcomed the new attorneys.

Many Empire graduates sat for the final 3-day exam in February 2017 and will receive their results in May. In July 2017 the new 2-day version will be rolled out to examinees. They will then wait eagerly until November for their results.

Competition Teams Selected

ENVIRONMENTAL NEGOTIATIONS – Congratulations to fourth-year students, Michael Caballero and Michelle Novi (photo at left), who were selected to represent Empire College School of Law in the 18th Annual State Bar of California Student Environmental Negotiations Competition. Dean Mullins and Professor Wallis, team coach, couldn’t have been more impressed watching the team compete at the March 2017 negotiations in San Francisco.

ROGER J. TRAYNOR MOOT COURT COMPETITION TEAM – the 2017 team





Paralegal Department News

Empire student Haley Ghiringelli awarded REAP scholarship

Congratulations to Haley Ghiringelli who was awarded the Redwood Empire Association of Paralegals (REAP) paralegal student scholarship at the end of 2016. The REAP Board was impressed with Haley's essay – particularly her statements about helping others in need and making a difference.

Paralegal students achieve Lexis Advance Certification

Congratulations to Nicole Graves and Diana Duenas-Brown who both received their Lexis Advance Certificate of Mastery in February. This certification demonstrates their understanding of the features of Lexis Advance including search and navigation features.

Guest speakers and field trips enrich learning

In November, both day and evening legal students listened to guest speakers Vanessa Buffington and Lauren Diaz, paralegals from San Francisco, who discussed what it's like to be paralegals in a big city environment.

Criminal defense attorney Charles Applegate visited our Business Law students in February to discuss criminal law.

ELSA raises money for scholarship fund

The November and January ELSA pizza fundraisers were very successful, raising over \$300. The money raised will go to a scholarship fund for legal students to attend seminars and luncheons given by our legal community.

Monica Lehre represents REAP on Bar Association board

Congratulations to Legal Department Head, Monica Lehre, who is now a 2017 board member of the Sonoma County Bar Association as a representative of an affiliated association, Redwood Empire Association of Paralegals.

Business Law instructor Murray Cockerill changes roles

In February, the Legal Department said a fond farewell to its long-time Business Law instructor Murray Cockerill. Murray is now the Assistant Dean of Empire Law School.

Paralegal graduate now managing County Law Library

Congratulations to Jeanette Tidd, a 2016 graduate of the paralegal program, who has been promoted to manager of the Sonoma County Public Law Library following the retirement of former director, Kim Tucker (who serves on the Advisory Board for Empire's paralegal program as well as the Master of Legal Studies program).

Sherie Hurd, Empire's Executive Vice President, who recently joined the Board of Trustees of the law library, said, "I am very proud and impressed with Jeanette's knowledge of the library's operations and her interaction with her Board, which is largely comprised of sitting judges. She is handling her new role admirably."

The library is celebrating its 125th year as a resource for the community. ▲



Top: Nicole Graves and Diana Duenas-Brown are Lexis certified!

Above: Guest speakers Lauren Diaz and Vanessa Buffington shared their insight on the legal profession.

News from the Business Administration Department

IAAP "Street Taco" Fundraiser for Steele Lane Elementary

The Empire student chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals recently held a street taco fundraiser for Steele Lane Elementary. The first in a series of fundraisers for the school, it netted \$125.

New IAAP Officers

Congratulations to Haley Kaighin and Amber Edmunson, new co-presidents of the IAAP student chapter.

Business Students Achieve Microsoft Certifications

Congratulations to the following Business students who recently passed Microsoft Certifications:

Julissa Alfaro: PowerPoint

Adrienne Antone: PowerPoint and Outlook

Andrew Bowman: Excel

Amy Christenson: Outlook and Excel

Payton Fedrick: PowerPoint

Corrie Koper: Outlook and Excel

Octavio Lopez Zendejas: Excel

Jessica Orozco-Romo: Excel and Word

Michelle Patrick: Excel, PowerPoint and Word

Erick Vargas: Excel

Project Management Class Creates Website

Students in the Project Management class are creating a website that will be used to highlight Empire's business program and all it offers. "We have resources on the site for fun jobs in the industry as well as projects that other students have created at Empire," says Haley Kaighin. The "About the Students" tab features bios from students to share their experience at Empire. The IAAP Club is also featured on the website.

The class photo at right will be featured on their home page.

Top row: Carlos Hernandez, Heather Bailey, and Melissa Chavez-Villalobos.

Middle row: Ashlee Wilson, Brenda Perez, and Amber Edmunson.

Front row: Ashley Vinas, Chelsea Warren, and Haley Kaighin ▲



Event Planning Students Raise Funds for Seniors

On December 1, 2016, Empire's event planning students proudly hosted "A Taste of Winter" potluck showdown. This eighth annual event featured a chef's "best dish" competition, beer and wine tasting, bingo and a silent auction (plus free children's activities and child care).

As part of the Empire College curriculum, business and hospitality students plan and execute this fun-filled evening to benefit a student-chosen nonprofit organization. This year's Potluck Chef Showdown proceeds – \$2700 – were given to Senior Advocacy Services, a group that advocates for the rights and dignity of those experiencing challenges in the long-term care setting. ▲



Accounting Department News

Empire Students Prepare Tax Returns...for Free!

For the eighth consecutive year, Empire College accounting students and faculty are assisting United Way of the Wine Country in delivering free income tax services to low-to-moderate income residents through the Earn It! Keep It! Save It! (EKS)/Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program. In order to participate in this unique, hands-on learning opportunity, each student has become IRS certified in advanced tax preparation.

“People who are in certain tax brackets can have their taxes prepared at no cost by trained preparers,” says Shelley Dawson, president of Empire’s student chapter of the Institute of Management Accountants and a volunteer tax preparer. “Working at the VITA/EKS clinic is very rewarding; it’s a great experience being able to give back to the community.”

From January 28th through April 18th, the Empire site will be offering tax preparation services on Monday through Thursday afternoons from 2:30 to 5:00 p.m., as well as Friday and Saturday mornings 9 a.m. until 12:30 p.m.

This year’s EKS program is again offering additional benefits and financial services at tax sites throughout the County. Suzanne Yeomans, Financial Stability Program Officer for United Way, appreciates the dedication and enthusiasm of these volunteers. “Empire College students provide incredible support for the VITA program through the United Way led Earn It! Keep It! Save It! Coalition,” says Yeomans. “Last year Empire College students prepared 1,111 tax returns, returning \$1,476,354 in refunds to our local communities. Students also assisted with the Sonoma County Kick-Off Event which was hosted by Empire College. The participation of Empire College is truly an asset to this program.”

To reserve an appointment time, call 2-1-1; for more information, visit www.unitedwaywinecountry.org.



Accounting Department Mentor



Shelley Dawson has worked in several aspects of property management throughout her life. She started out working as a leasing agent for apartments and advanced to manager, obtaining her Texas Real Estate License. When she moved to California, she worked for a property management company and worked the service desk for over 30 homeowners’ associations. After starting her family, she worked part-time at storage facilities through the years. She took care of accounts receivable and collections as well as renting units. Says Shelley:

I also have been involved for six years with CA PTA and held several board positions. Now that my two boys are older, I wanted to advance my education so that I can now have a career that I enjoy and one that will allow me to be financially stable as a divorced single mom.

IMA Student Chapter News

From fundraisers for community projects to guest speakers, the IMA student chapter provides a variety of opportunities for professional development. IMA participants raised funds for the VITA kickoff luncheon and were recognized for their efforts with certificates of recognition (photo below, top right). They also partnered with Redwood Credit Union and participated in the Bite of Reality financial workshop at Ridgway High School. ▲



Top: Ashley Whitt, Shelley Dawson, and Trisha Decaillet are volunteering in the VITA tax clinic this year.

Above: Congratulations to Jennifer Louviere-Medeiros who is a NBA certified bookkeeper! Congratulations also go to Nicole Crist and Edgar Gutierrez who are Microsoft Excel certified.

Far left: Night IMA volunteers organized a food drive for the holiday season.

Below left: Students, faculty and staff participated in the Bite of Reality financial workshop at Ridgway High School.



Medical Department News

Medical Billing & Coding News

Empire medical billing and coding graduate, Anna Ginnett (right), took her certification exam and is now a CPC-A, Certified Professional Coder, Apprentice Status. Congratulations Anna!



The Santa Rosa chapter of AAPC, the organization that offers certifications in various medical billing and coding subjects, holds its monthly meeting at Empire College in Room 209. The topic of the March meeting, on Saturday March 18th was: *Ways to Improve E/M Documentation*. All Empire students are welcome to attend these meetings, and all AAPC members will receive CEU credits for the meeting. Students who are interested in becoming involved in the organization can sign up on the website at www.aapc.com; student memberships are \$80.

The bulletin board outside of Room 209 has received a facelift! Please stop by to read about updates in the medical coding industry as well as the latest information regarding AAPC. For example, Dawn Wuerthner, CPC (Empire's medical billing and coding instructor) is serving as AAPC's 2017 Education Officer.

Volunteers Needed for Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 22nd Empire will be hosting a booth at the Earth Day celebration in downtown Santa Rosa. We will be performing Blood Pressure and Blood Sugar testing. If you have passed these checkoffs, you are eligible to help at this booth. We have served hundreds of people in one day at this event in past years. Come and make a difference in the health of your community!

Saturday, April 29th Dr. Punatar from NCMA has once again asked us to help him at his annual Medtronic health screening. This is an early event on a Saturday but totally worth the effort! We will be doing Blood Pressure, Cholesterol, and Ha1C testing for Diabetes.

For more information and to sign up for these volunteer events, please contact Shannon Tinsley at stinsley@empirecollege.com or stop by Room 205.

CMAA Annual Meeting Held on Campus

The California Medical Assistant's Association hosted its Annual Meeting here at Empire College on March 23-26. There were many hours of continuing education available to attendees on topics ranging from HIPAA to pacemakers to acupuncture. All certified medical assistants must earn CEUs to maintain their certification, and the annual meeting is a primary source for that education.

Student members of the Sonoma Region of CMAA planned the event. Krystina Cronin obtained donations for a silent auction on Friday night. Latisha Tristano headed up the decorations committee, and Kristin Douglas Aldrich helped



Turn to Medical News... Page 8



More annual meeting photos at www.facebook.com/EmpireCollege.SchoolofBusiness

Clockwise from below top right: Recently certified CMAAs honored at the annual meeting included Olita Naredo (newly certified), Brydie Burke who recertified after 5 years, and Michelle Batty who recertified for the third time after 15 years! All Empire grads!

Dr. Westrom has been a long-time supporter of Empire College and CMAA.

Su Chew of NCMA, who serves on Empire's Medical Advisory Board, spoke about pacemakers.

Steve Vantine from the State Department of PUblic Health Immunization Branch kicked off the annual meeting.

Empire's medical billing/coding instructor Dawn Wuerthner spoke about HIPAA.



Information Technology Department News

I.T. Students Attend Security Conferences

I.T. students attended the North Bay Business Journal's Cyber Security Conference in September and the annual RSA Conference at the Moscone Center in February, providing them the opportunity to connect with information security leaders. RSA exhibitors demonstrated the latest technological solutions and hands-on learning opportunities.

Meet Mark Thomas, Department Mentor

Mark grew up in Sonoma and Mendocino Counties. During high school, he got into the forestry industry and logged up north for 3-4 years and then in the tree industry in Sonoma County for 2-3 years. Following that he joined the Army in 2012 and did 4 years active duty before getting a back injury. That's when he decided it was time for another career change and that I.T. might be for him.

Mark and his wife enjoy the outdoors and do a lot of camping and dirt bike trips, and they have a 3-year-old daughter. "She is just my world," says Mark. "I want her to see that no matter where you come from or how you're brought up that you can change and write your path as you see fit and that the sky is not the limit; it goes way past that."

I.T. Students Help with Empire's "Borderless Classroom" Upgrade

The Empire campus was literally buzzing with activity during spring break week as Trenton Schuttler, our Systems Administrator, along with an eager and enthusiastic crew of I.T. students and Empire faculty implemented the first phase of Empire's new computer lab system! Upon their return from the holiday week, students were introduced to their private cloud and borderless classroom, designed to improve speed and reliability.

WYSE thin clients and beautiful LED ViewSonic monitors were installed in six classrooms and the law library – 160 in all! The new student desktop system allows students to access course software as well as other Empire resources, from virtually anywhere that has an internet connection.

IT students attain industry certifications



Core

Marc Hunter
David Johnson



Practical/OS

Marc Hunter



Randall Lane



Andrew Wilcox



Cory Fulchiron, Implementing Cisco Telepresence Video Solution

David Galiata, Designing for Cisco Internetworked Solutions

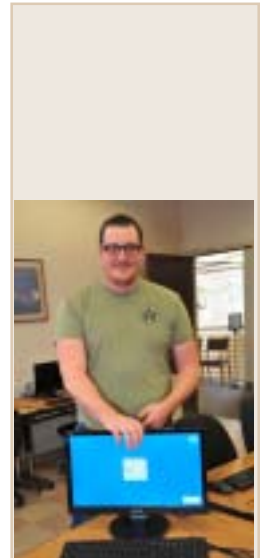
Alvin Joe, Implementing Cisco IP Switched Networks



Randall Lane, Installing and Configuring Windows Server 2012

Richard Lyon, Administering Windows Server 2012

Logan Peterson, VMware Certified Professional 6 - Data Center Virtualization Delta Exam



IT student mentor Mark Thomas



Above and left: Students learn from industry experts at security conferences.



Below: Part of the "Empire Upgrade" volunteer team – Eric Ballinger, Nathan Jackson, Marc Hunter, Carl Oeschger, and team leader Trenton Schuttler. Others on the team were Phil Aldrich, Jacob Hofstetter, Crystal Hollenbeck, Devin Juley, Jordan Padgett, and Brandan Merrick (see page 12).

Medical News (continued from page 6)

secure caterers and other fun aspects of the meeting. Committee members included: Christina Kelly, Jeni Burdick, Caitlin Diedrich, Monica Lemley, Noel Wood, Ana Morales, Angeliqne Sinnott, Sandra Titoni, Nina Toscanini, Kristin Douglas Aldrich, Latisha Tristano, and Krystina Cronin.

Meet Bryan Fagerness, Medical Student Mentor

I'm a six foot tall dork who wears pink scrubs on Wednesdays. I enjoy working out and playing basketball with my friends and also I love music. I'm a very open person and am always there to help you out with any questions you have school/non-school related.

The main reason I came to Empire was to better my situation but also to help my mom with her financial situation. All in all, I want look back at my time spent at Empire as one of the best investments of my life. I love the school and their staff. I feel really at home at school and wouldn't change that for anything.

Medical Skills Certifications

Congratulations to medical majors who have recently earned injection, EKG, phlebotomy, and/or urinalysis skills certifications:

Rosalia Avina	Stephanie Godinez	Edith Mora	Marlus Shaw
Daniela Banuelos Corona	Gabriela Gomez-Jimenez	Andreana Mota	Nicole Smith
Elizabeth Buckley	Samantha Halverson	Guadalupe Nieto	Melanie Stafford
Jeniffer Burdick	Alejandra Infante	Danielle Nunez	Sonia Tapia
Melissa Cherney	Rosa Iniguez Cervantes	Sonya O'Brien	Sandra Torres
Krystina Cronin	Melissa Karmondy	Anahi Olivas	Latisha Tristano
Christine Dearmore	Christina Kelly	Vanessa Ortiz-Mendez	Daisy Vazquez
Rosa De Jesus	Cassandra Kirtley	Aaron Peralta	Marlene Vigil
Kristin Douglas-Aldrich	Kasey Koch	Patricia Poole	Rebecca Walsh
Rita Dugh	Ernesto Luevano	Karla Rodas Mejia	Noel Wood
Bryan Fagerness	Gabriela Luevano	Isabel Rosas Gomez	Rachel Zinsmaster
Erika Figueroa	Sadie Madrid	Jacqueline Ruiz	
Olivia Funtanellas	Antoinette McAnallan	Dianne Sforzo	

Congratulations to new Certified Medical Assistants!

Congratulations to those who have achieved their CCMA certification:

Jannet Andrade Avila, CCMA-C
Jennifer Bandt-Pizano, CCMA-C
Leesa Barton, CCMA-AC
Melanie Casey, CCMA-AC
Elia Cruz, CCMA-A
Diana Fox, CCMA-C
Stephanie Godinez, CCMA-C
Maura Gomez, CCMA-C



Miroslava Hernandez, CCMA-C
Sandra Lacayo, CCMA-AC
Olita Naredo, CCMA-C
Gabriela Navarro, CCMA-AC
Emily Papich, CCMA-A
Jessica Pittman, CCMA-AC
Christy Revuelta, CCMA-C



Your Online Brand and How to Manage It

What do you think the single best way to prepare for your job search while you're going to school is? If you answered, "do well in school," you're correct! However, there are other, simpler tasks you can do now. One of them is to manage your online presence...but what does that really mean?

To clarify, what you do online is part of your personal brand - it represents you, in addition to your application, your grades/attendance, the interview, your references, etc. More and more, employers are performing online searches to learn about potential candidates. It's fast, it's free, and sometimes, it can weed out candidates.

Whenever Career Services addresses this with soon-to-be graduates, we invariably get two responses: 1) "I can delete my Facebook account!", or 2) "I'm hardly ever on there." Your social media sites are a great way to keep up with friends and family, so deleting the account isn't practical, or advised. Additionally, even if you post minimally, your friends could be making comments or sharing content that affect your reputation.

JOBS! (continued from page 1)

Information Technology

Alethea Candia	Game Technician	EpiCenter
Daron Carter	Help Desk Technician	Foley Family Wines
Bruno Figarola	Technical Support Representative	Sonic.net
Randall Lane	Network Technician	Sonic.net
Megan MacIsaac	Administrative Services Assistant	Farm Fresh Clothing Co.
Chris Rivera	Help Desk Support	Fusion Technology Solutions, LLC

Legal

Autumn Gillette	Paralegal	Herbert Terreri's Law Office
Andrea Ruiz	Paralegal	American Mortgage Law Group
Karen Santana Ruiz	Sr. Legal Typist	Agricultural Labor Relations Board

Medical

Oscar Alvarado	Medical Assistant	Healdsburg District Hospital
Brenda Avina	Medical Assistant	Dr. Goldman, Robert
Jennifer Bandt	Medical Assistant	Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation
Cynthia Brenner	Medical Assistant	Eye Associates Medical Group, Inc.
Olga Cervantes	Medical Assistant	Santa Rosa Community Health
Josefina Dominguez	Charge Batch Specialist	Northern California Medical Associates
Courtney Garcia	Receptionist	Santa Rosa Physical Therapy
Stephanie Godinez	Medical Assistant	Alliance Medical Center
Sandra Gomez	Medical Assistant	Sonoma Valley Hospital
Heather Graham	Diagnostic Technician	Eye Care Institute
Katie Houle	Medical Assistant	Sutter Pacific Medical Foundation
Alejandra Infante	Medical Assistant	Concentra
Melissa Kamondy	Medical Assistant	Northern California Medical Associates
Priya Latchman	Medical Assistant	Northern California Medical Associates
Diana Lizalde	Receptionist	Kenwood Fence Co., Inc.
Claudia Lizarraga	Billing Specialist	Center For Well-Being
Reva Lopez	Medical Assistant	Concentra
Guadalupe Nieto	Medical Assistant	Northern California Medical Associates
Janica Ocampo	Payment Processor	Northern California Medical Associates
Wrendy Phinney	Medical Assistant	Northern California Medical Associates
Keira Slover	Front Office Medical Assistant	Redwood Coast Medical Services, Inc.
Sonia Tapia	Medical Assistant	Redwood Orthopaedic Surgery Assoc.
Vanessa Thammasoth	Medical Assistant	North Bay Foot & Ankle Surgery
Rachel Zinsmaster	Medical Receptionist	Eye Associates Medical Group, Inc. ▲

The best way to maintain a professional online presence is to make sure that your Facebook page is private. You can do this by looking at your settings. Making your profile private prevents outsiders from seeing **most** items. Note that we didn't say *all* of your items. The public - including employers - can still view your profile and your image pictures, so keep these both clean and professional looking. For all other social media sites, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, etc., the same is advised: keep it private or keep it clean.

You can also leverage social media to your advantage. How do you do this? In two ways. The best way to find a job is still through your network. Social media makes this a lot easier by allowing you to provide an update to your contacts and followers about what job you're looking for. You can even ask them to share it to their page to increase your exposure.

Another way to leverage social media is to create a LinkedIn profile. Once you have your resume completed, you can just copy and paste. This will provide an online presence that you intend to show an employer - the professional *you* who is ready to start your career!

Visit Tammy or Jennifer in Career Services to learn more about what you can do for your online brand.



In Brief (continued from page 2)

of Robin Bartholow, Christopher Delgado, and Justin Smock recently submitted their competition brief (or as they like to say “the eagle has landed”) and now under the watchful eyes of Coach Burtnett are deeply involved in their preparations for oral arguments. We know they will represent Empire in spectacular fashion at the competition in Sacramento on April 1-2.

Faculty and Staff News – Exciting Changes

We happily recognized 2016 Law Faculty milestone anniversaries:

- 5 Years: Professors Christianson and Gardner
- 10 Years: Professors Grady, Ravitch, and the Honorable Judge Ornell
- 20 Years: Professors Fallon, Rickett, and Wiseman
- Retiring after over 25 years of teaching: Commissioner Anthony Wheeldin – Civil Procedure

Exciting changes:

- Dan Lanahan III, Esq. – moving into private practice, ad hoc consultant
- Murray Cockerill, Esq. Empire Class of 2008 – New Assistant Dean and Admissions Officer
- New Professor Valerie Higgins - Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Survey/Mediation
- Former Law office team member Kadee Gilliland had her baby girl, Zayna Chayse, in December and they are both doing great.

Fall Awards Ceremony

Congratulations to the following students who were recognized for legal scholarship and stellar academics at the annual Fall Awards Ceremony and Pizza Party.

SCHOLARSHIPS: Michael Caballero, Jr., Justin Smock, Katherine Stanford

WITKIN AWARDS:

Joel Fleck & Rich Watson	Business Organizations
Christina Howard	Civil Procedure
Kirsten Cummings & Kendall Jarvis	Community Property
Justin Smock	Constitutional Law
Stephanie Ransom & Haley Stiles	Contracts
Stephanie Ransom & Katherine Stanford	Criminal Law
Justin Smock & Christopher Van Nuys	Criminal Procedure
Christopher Delgado	Evidence
Olga Komar, Trayce Beards & Jean Clifford	Moot Court – Top Brief
Michael J. Caballero, Justin Smock & Chandra Valianti	Moot Court – Top Oralist
Gerald Jones	Professional Responsibility
Caitlin van Loben Sels	Real Property
Trayce Beards	Remedies
Stephanie Ransom & Reed Moran	Torts
James McCrumb	Wills & Trusts

Small Claims Advisory Milestone

Empire College’s Small Claims Advisory Clinic has served over 22,500 community members. We thank the Law students who support our community. In summer, the Clinic will be led by Professor and new Assistant Dean, Murray Cockerill.

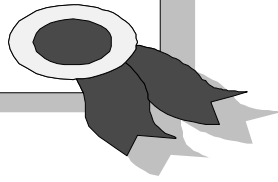
Cathy Riggs (Class of 1995), Justice of the Peace, Arizona Justice Court

On January 6, 2017, Empire Law alumna Cathy Riggs was officially sworn in by Arizona Supreme Court Justice Clint Bolick as the new Justice of the Peace for Desert Ridge. (Her husband Frank Riggs, former U.S. Congressman, California, holds the bible.) Justice Riggs is the 12th Empire graduate to serve as a member of the judiciary, and the first outside California. ▲



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EmpireCollege.SchoolofLaw](http://www.facebook.com/EmpireCollege.SchoolofLaw)

Honor Roll



Students listed have achieved President's or Dean's Honors as of February 1.

PRESIDENT'S HONORS: 3.85-4.0 cumulative GPA & no Incomplete or F grades

DEAN'S HONORS: 3.45-3.84 cumulative GPA, no I or F grades

President's Honors

Ahm, Rachel
Alberini, Jaye-P
Alfaro, Julissa
Alvarado Rodriguez, Deanna
Armas Nava, Jeanette
Avina, Rosalia
Ballinger, Eric
Bart, Katie
Chacon, Marisa
Christensen, Amy
Clark, Beth
Clay, Jennifer
Dearmore, Christine
Decaillet, Trisha
Doughtie, Tracey
Duenas-Brown, Diana
Edmunson, Amber
Graves, Donna
Kaighin, Haley
Kelly, Christina
Kennedy, Jesse
Koch, Kasey
Leacock, Kenneth
Magana, Victoria
Medina-Perez, Areli
Miranda Ferrari, Jasmin
Nunez Vega, Joana
Nunez, Danielle
O'Brien, Sonya
Peralta, Aaron
Piland, Cherie
Riolo, Alyson
Seiffert, Amanda
Sforzo, Dianne
Shaw, Marlus
Sinnott, Angelique
Treankle, Mariah

Vaughn, Jean Ayesah Mae
Vigil, Maria Guadalupe
Walsh, Rebecca
Wilson, Linette

Dean's Honors

Covarrubias, Jesus
Crist, Nicole
Dawson, Shelley
Douglas-Aldrich, Kristin
Fedrick, Payton Alter
Glavich, Brittney
Gonzalez Alvarez, Cynthia
Halverston, Samantha
Humphrey, Bryce
Hunter, Marc
Hyde, Reannaa
Longacre, Morgan
Madrid, Sadie Elizabeth
Manzano, Ryan
Maritzen, Nichole
Poole, Patricia
Quiroz, Enrique
Robbins, Nicolette
Roberts, Kelly
Roman Villafane, Carolina
Rosas-Cruz, Berenisse
Sanchez Ortiz, Paula
Sarmiento, Krista
Smith, Nicole
Stafford, Melanie
Stears, Francine
Suarez, Isis
Valdivia, Michelle
Vargas, Daniela
Vazquez, Daisy
Warren, Chelsea
Wirth, Diana

Tell your family to
**SAVE
THE
DATE !**

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS COMMENCEMENT

Thursday, June 15, 7pm

@ Luther Burbank Center for the Arts

Details will be mailed soon to grads!

Questions? See Sherie Hurd





Empire College

BORDERLESS CLASSROOM

where learning has no boundaries

What's this?
See story on
page 7!



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